

# PUBLIC NOTICE

## **NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY AND NOTICE OF CONSIDERATION BY THE CALIFORNIA HIGH-SPEED RAIL AUTHORITY OF THE BAY AREA TO CENTRAL VALLEY HIGH-SPEED TRAIN REVISED FINAL PROGRAM ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT**

The California High-Speed Rail Authority (Authority), with the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), completed the *Final Bay Area to Central Valley High-Speed Train (HST) Program Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS)* in May 2008 that evaluated alternatives—at a programmatic level of analysis—of the proposed HST system within the broad corridor between and including the Altamont Pass and Pacheco Pass. The Authority and FRA identified the Pacheco Pass serving San Francisco and San Jose termini as the preferred HST Network Alternative, as well as mitigation strategies, design practices, and further measures to guide the system's development and avoid and minimize potential adverse environmental impacts. The Authority approved the project and issued a California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Notice of Determination (NOD) on July 9, 2008.

The Authority's compliance with CEQA was challenged in litigation titled *Town of Atherton, et al., v. California High-Speed Rail Authority*, Sacramento Superior Court No. 34-2008-80000022. The court's judgment entered on November 3, 2009, found that the Authority's certified Final Bay Area to Central Valley HST Program EIR failed to comply fully with CEQA and identified areas requiring additional analysis. To comply with the court judgment, the Authority rescinded its certification of the Final Bay Area to Central Valley HST Program EIR, its approval of the Pacheco Pass Network Alternative serving San Francisco via San Jose, and related documents. Next the Authority prepared and circulated a Revised Draft Program EIR Material (Revised Draft Program EIR) containing the information and analysis needed for compliance with the court judgment. The Revised Draft Program EIR identified the Pacheco Pass Network Alternative serving San Francisco via San Jose as the preferred HST Network Alternative.

The Authority has prepared a Revised Final Program EIR for the Bay Area to Central Valley region. The Revised Final Program EIR includes revised text, responses to comments received on the Revised Draft Program EIR, copies of the comments received, and the full text of the May 2008 Final Program. By August 23, 2010, the Revised Final Program EIR will be made available to the public on the Authority's website [[www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov](http://www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov)]. Those who commented and provided a mailing address will receive a CD-ROM copy of the Revised Final Program EIR in the mail. You may visit the Authority's web site to request a CD-ROM of the Revised Final Program EIR, and locate a library near you to review a copy of the Revised Final Program EIR. Printed copies of the Revised Final Program EIR have been placed in main public libraries in the following cities: Fremont, Gilroy, Livermore, Menlo Park, Merced, Modesto, Mountain View, Oakland, Palo Alto, Pleasanton, Sacramento, San Francisco, San Jose, Stockton, and Tracy.

The Authority will consider the Revised Final Program EIR and related decisions at a two-day public meeting in September. The Authority will receive a staff report and public comment on the Revised Final Program EIR on the first day of the public meeting to be held in the California State Capitol, Sacramento CA 95814, Senate Hearing Room 4203 on September 1, 2010, starting at 2:30 p.m. The Authority will receive an additional staff report and will consider making decisions related to the Revised Final Program EIR on September 2, 2010, starting at 9:00 a.m. at the Sacramento City Hall, 915 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 City Council Chambers, including whether to certify the Revised Final Program EIR for compliance with CEQA, selection of a network alternative for further project-level study, and whether to adopt a mitigation monitoring and reporting program and CEQA findings along with a statement of overriding considerations.

The agenda for the two-day public meeting will be available on the Authority's website [[www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov](http://www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov)] on August 20, 2010. Materials for the public meeting, including a Staff Report, draft Resolution, and draft decision documents concerning the Revised Final Program EIR will be available on the Authority's web site [[www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov](http://www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov)] before the meeting by August 27, 2010. Please call the Authority, (916) 324-1541, or check the Authority web site [[www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov](http://www.cahighspeedrail.ca.gov)] for more information.

The Authority does not discriminate on the basis of disability and, upon request, will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services, and activities.

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